

Western

# RENEWAL



Spring 2014 Western Seminary E-Newsletter

## Hello from Dr. Roberts

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*Western Seminary strives to serve as a catalyst and resource for spiritual transformation by providing, with and for the church, advanced training for strategic ministry roles.*

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Welcome to the spring edition of Western's electronic newsletter. You can read in this issue about our new teaching site in Seattle, the recent move of our Sacramento campus and its upcoming open house (if you are in the area, I hope to see you there), our latest core faculty hire, highlights from the Portland commencement and Ignite women's conference, and a handful of other news items that will be of interest.

If we had more space, we could also report on yet another year of record attendance for The Spurgeon Fellowship, the soon-to-be launched Regeneration Project led by Dr. Dan Kimball (which will help the church reach more effectively the "millennial generation" that is under-represented in many congregations), the expansion of our Kern Family Foundation Faith and Work initiative to Northern California in the coming year, significant new developments for our Center for Leadership Development, and the development of an alternative path to pastoral formation for those who are not able to pursue graduate degrees. But all that (and more) will have to wait for a subsequent issue.

There are indeed a lot of exciting things happening right now, as Western is being given a variety of potentially strategic opportunities to enhance and extend our kingdom impact. As a result, we face difficult (but necessary) situations in which we need to say "no" to some invitations that come our way so we can be both wise and faithful in the stewardship of our God-given resources. For it is very easy for organizations with positive momentum to become over-extended, and as a result to over-promise but under-deliver. Please be praying that we will continue to make prudent choices in our various projects and partnerships so that our gospel witness is maximized.

Your co-laborer in Christ,

*Randal Roberts*

Randal Roberts, D.Min.  
*President*  
*Professor of Spiritual Formation*



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# SEATTLE TEACHING SITE



## Starting In The Fall Of 2014, Western Will Be Serving Students On-Site in Seattle

As another expression of our desire to partner with local churches to benefit their communities, we are delighted to announce the opening of a Seattle-based teaching site to serve new and current students in the greater Seattle region. Beginning in the fall of 2014, students will have the opportunity to complete a Graduate Studies Certificate entirely at this location or to enroll in credit courses that may be applied towards the completion of a diploma or master's degree through additional coursework completed at one of Western's campuses. The site will be hosted by Mars Hill Church in Bellevue, Washington, with Western providing both the faculty and curriculum. "We are very excited

**"WE ARE VERY EXCITED TO BE RETURNING TO SEATTLE TO OFFER THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION FOR THE CHURCHES IN WESTERN WASHINGTON. THE COURSES WILL INCLUDE MANY OF OUR FIRST YEAR MASTER OF DIVINITY COURSES IN BIBLICAL STUDIES AND INTERPRETATION, APOLOGETICS AND DISCIPLESHIP."**

**- DR. ROB WIGGINS**

to be returning to Seattle to offer theological education for the churches in western Washington. The courses will include many of our first year Master of Divinity courses in biblical studies and interpretation, apologetics and discipleship," commented Dr. Rob Wiggins, Academic Dean. Interested students may apply now for admission. More information can be found online at [www.westernseminary.edu/seattle](http://www.westernseminary.edu/seattle) or by emailing [seattle@westernseminary.edu](mailto:seattle@westernseminary.edu).



## ALUMNI UPDATE

### Alum Becomes Command Chaplain For U.S. European Command

Capt. Gary Weeden, a 1987 grad from the Master of Divinity program, was recently promoted from his position as Chaplain of the U.S. Coast Guard to Command Chaplain for U.S. European Command. This new post will take him to Stuttgart, Germany, where he will serve as chaplain over all branches of the U.S. military in Europe, providing for the spiritual needs of those in service and forming cooperative, non-military partnerships that promote regional stability. Congratulations to Chaplain Weeden! ■

# — PORTLAND COMMENCEMENT



**“YOU HAVE A MISSION TO RETELL THE TRUE STORY TO A GENERATION THAT DOESN’T KNOW IT YET. WE EXIST TO HELP OTHERS KNOW THE WONDERFUL NEWS ABOUT JESUS.”**

**- DR. DAN KIMBALL**



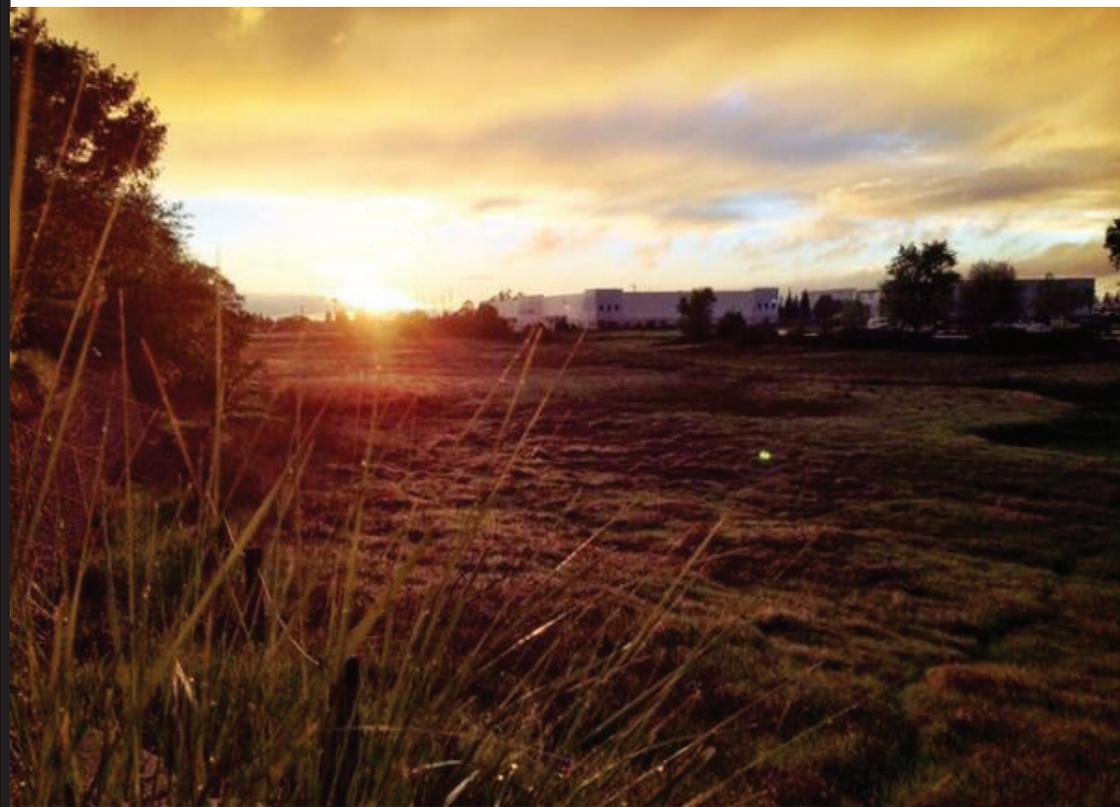
## **Congratulations to the Class of 2014!**

This year marked one of Portland’s largest graduating classes, with 92 graduates receiving diplomas. The 87<sup>th</sup> annual commencement ceremony took place on April 26<sup>th</sup> at Village Church in Beaverton, Oregon. Commencement speaker Dr. Dan Kimball (class of ‘99) encouraged students to move forward and put their degrees to use, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with a generation and a culture who have not heard the gospel story accurately told.

The previous night, family and friends gathered for the traditional banquet dinner and student testimonies. This year’s banquet speakers were Julia Stager, Tin Van Nguyen, David Thommen, Jena Abaria, John Larson, and Karen Howells. ■

### ***Clockwise from Left:***

*Students prepare for graduation; students kneel during the dedicatory prayer; Dr. Dan Kimball delivers commencement address.*



**Clockwise from Left:** March 31, 2014 - Sacramento student John Hamilton tweeted this picture at the close of the first day of classes at the new campus; President Randal Roberts presents Arcade Church with a plaque honoring 22 years of ministry partnership; a new classroom; the front entry.

# SETTLING IN

## Western Seminary Sacramento Starts Classes at Rocklin Campus

Having now been in full operation for the past two months, we're thrilled to report that the Sacramento campus' new home in Rocklin has been a wonderful move for our Sacramento students. "I've heard more than a few 'Wow!'s from students," says Executive Dean Wes Ehrhart. "Most all the feedback has been excitingly positive."

Please join us for a special open house to take a look at the new campus! Meet students, faculty and staff. Experience the environment where pastors, leaders and counselors will be trained and see how this new facility will contribute to gospel-centered learning and commissioning. This is a casual, drop-in event. Light refreshments will be served and all ages are invited. We hope to see you there! ■

### OPEN HOUSE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28<sup>TH</sup>  
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

290 Technology Way,  
Suite 200, Rocklin, CA  
95765

Questions? Call  
916.488.3720 x0



## IGNITE

### Portland City-Wide Event Serves Over 400 Women

The Women's Center for Ministry saw a wonderful response to their 2014 Ignite event! Over 400 women attended the event, which celebrated local ties and talents. Together, keynote speaker Heather Thomas, 15 labs led by various ministry leaders, and a 10-woman citywide worship band (not to mention the Joy of Dance worship team), made for a rich and diverse learning experience.

CD's and MP3's are [available for purchase](#) at the Women's Center for Ministry webpage. ■

## INTRODUCING RYAN LISTER

### Western's Newest Faculty Member to Join in Fall of 2014

We are pleased to announce the addition of Dr. Ryan Lister to the Western Seminary faculty. "Some key friends of Western who know Dr. Lister have urged us to hire him for our faculty. After getting to know him, I see why. For he is indeed a great fit by way of theological convictions, teaching style, and godly character," shared President Randal Roberts.

According to Academic Dean, Dr. Rob Wiggins, "Ryan will be teaching courses in systematic theology and biblical studies, including advanced Master of Theology level subjects." Hiring Dr. Lister helps Western occupy the theology spot vacated by Dr. Cortez.

Ryan has received the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Systematic Theology from The Southern Baptist Seminary. He has taught full-time for three years at the undergraduate level in the area of theology and Christian studies and will join the Western Seminary faculty as an Assistant Professor in the 2014-15 academic year. ■

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**- DR. RANDAL ROBERTS**



## STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITY

**Armstrong Hall:** Western's historic administrative building is part of Portland, Oregon's iconic Hawthorne District.

### Funding Needed for Repair on Armstrong Hall Columns

Western Seminary's administrative offices reside in what was once the home of Mr. Philip Buehner. Now referred to as Armstrong Hall, the mansion (which was completed in 1909) was once a society home, host to frequent gala events and considered "one of the finest [homes] on the East Side," according to The Oregonian. It is now on the National Register of Historic Places.

Unfortunately, the turn-of-the-century building has begun to show signs of wear. The six Corinthian columns at the front entry are supported by bases that have begun to separate and shift. Numerous holes have also appeared in the columns. Assessment by an engineer has determined that the columns are losing their weight-bearing capacity and are in need of immediate repair.

Renovation will include replacing the column bases and removing, recreating, and replacing the column capitals. Metal columns would be installed and the original outer casing repaired, fitting around the metal columns. This would insure the columns' structural integrity while retaining their original beauty.

The estimated cost of these repairs is \$100,000. Please partner with us as we work to keep our buildings safe, functional, and preserve the history that surrounds our Portland campus. ■

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

To view a complete schedule of events, click on the campus title below. All events will take place at their respective campus unless otherwise noted.

## AUDIT OPPORTUNITY!

### PRE-MARITAL COUNSELING WORKSHOP *featuring Prepare/Enrich*

Join Dr. Norm Thiesen, Western Seminary Professor of Counseling, to explore the rationale, tools, and procedures for pre-marital education and counseling from a Christ-centered perspective. Students will be credentialed in the use of Prepare/Enrich materials. This Course meets the qualifications for continuing education credit for MFCCs, LMFTs and LCSWs.

Course will be offered at the Portland and Sacramento campuses. See below for dates.

## PORTLAND

### FRIDAY, JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup>

#### Pre-marital Counseling Workshop

3:00 PM–9:00 PM

See course description in box above.

Questions? Contact Hannah Hayes at [hhayes@westernseminary.edu](mailto:hhayes@westernseminary.edu).

## SACRAMENTO

### FRIDAY–SATURDAY MAY 30<sup>TH</sup> & 31<sup>ST</sup>

#### Pre-marital Counseling Workshop

Friday, May 30<sup>TH</sup>  
1:00 PM–9:00 PM

Saturday, May 31<sup>ST</sup>  
8:00 AM–4:00 PM

See course description in box above.

Questions? Contact Laura Frederick at [lfrederick@westernseminary.edu](mailto:lfrederick@westernseminary.edu).

### THURSDAY, JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup>

#### Campus Connection

7:00 PM–9:00 PM

Find out more about Western Seminary! This is a great place for prospective students to ask questions, meet some staff members, and get to know Western Seminary a little better.

Questions? Contact Nathan Cozington at [ncozington@westernseminary.edu](mailto:ncozington@westernseminary.edu).

## SAN JOSE

### SATURDAY, JUNE 7<sup>TH</sup>

#### Campus Connection

10:30 AM–1:00 PM

Come to the San Jose campus for an informational event where you'll hear students' perspectives, meet faculty and staff, sit in on a class, learn our distinctives and enjoy fellowship and a meal on us!

RSVP to Tom Olson by May 30<sup>th</sup> at [tolson@westernseminary.edu](mailto:tolson@westernseminary.edu).

### SATURDAY, JULY 12<sup>TH</sup>

#### Commencement

11:00 AM–12:30 PM

Christ Community Church  
1000 S Park Victoria Dr.  
Milpitas, CA 95035

Please join us as we celebrate the Class of 2014 at this year's Commencement! The ceremony will be held at Christ Community Church in Milpitas. Cheer on your friends and classmates as they commemorate this tremendous accomplishment. We hope to see you there! ■